

# FESTIVALS

## UTAH

LIFE ELEVATED™

Dancers at Salt Lake's Living Traditions Festival

UTAH OFFICE OF TOURISM



The home of Orem's Timpanogos Storytelling Festival



Snowbird Rock and Blues Festival



Traditional dancer at the Echoing Traditional Ways Pow Wow, Utah State University, Logan



Historic Main Street, Park City Arts Festival

Come celebrate with us! Every year Utah brings the world together through a variety of festivals celebrating cultural diversity and the human spirit. This has always been a land of contrasts, from the Utah Arts Festival, showcasing local, national and international artists, to Snowbird's Oktoberfest celebrating Germany's finest food, beer and music. It's about family and friends, with a little cultural flavor thrown in to keep things interesting.

- ★ The Sundance Film Festival, held in Park City each January, is considered the premier U.S. showcase for American and international independent film.
- ★ The Utah Shakespearean Festival is Tony Award-winning, named "America's Outstanding Regional Theatre" in 2000.
- ★ Glenn Dicterow, Concertmaster of the NY Philharmonic, has described Park City and the International Music Festival as one of the most "magical" spots on Earth for chamber music.
- ★ The Utah Arts Festival has attracted more than two million people, 4,500 performances and 3,600 artist's displays for over 30 years running!

### UTAH'S PREMIER FESTIVALS BY REGION

#### Northern Utah

**Festival of the American West**, dates throughout the year, Wellsville

The American West Heritage Center makes it possible for guests from around the world to experience life as it was in the 1800's. Celebrations continue throughout the year featuring clothes, music, food, and weaponry from back in the day. [www.americanwestcenter.org](http://www.americanwestcenter.org)

**First Night Celebration**, New Year's Eve, Salt Lake City & Provo

Kick off the new year with fireworks, an around-the-world food court and heated tents hosting activities from arts and crafts and karaoke to speed dating. And don't forget to check out the live entertainment! [www.firstnightslc.org/](http://www.firstnightslc.org/) [www.provo.org/parks.First\\_Night\\_2005\\_main.html](http://www.provo.org/parks.First_Night_2005_main.html)

**Sundance Film Festival**, last two weeks in January, Park City

Ten days of indie film artists, critics and industry professionals from around the world assemble to celebrate the best of independent American and international films in this world-famous film festival. [www.festival.sundance.org/2006](http://www.festival.sundance.org/2006)

**Echoing Traditional Ways Pow Wow**, first week of March, USU, Logan

This annual student-organized event is centered on educating the community and USU students about Native American culture. The event offers a taste of traditional dance, food, jewelry and clothing. <http://multiculture.usu.edu/organizations/nasc>

**St. Patrick's Day Parade**, early March, Salt Lake City

Join Utah's Irish community in celebrating Ireland's history and culture with dancing, celtic music and green food and drinks. Whatever you do, don't forget to wear green or you might get pinched by a leprechaun! <http://irishutah.cc>

**Great Salt Lake Bird Festival**, mid May, Farmington

With 415 species of birds sighted in Utah, visitors are bound to be impressed with the bird watching festivities at this bird festival. [www.greatsaltlakebirdfest.com](http://www.greatsaltlakebirdfest.com)

**Living Traditions Festival**, mid May, Salt Lake City

Salt Lake's diverse ethnic groups come together to share their contemporary costumes, music, food, dance and culture. [www.cislac.ut.us/arts/livingtraditions](http://www.cislac.ut.us/arts/livingtraditions)

**Heritage Day**, last week of May, Spring City, Sanpete Valley

Explore Utah's best preserved Mormon village, tour historic homes and get a taste of what it would be like to live as a Mormon pioneer. <http://historicspringcity.org/html/event2.html>

**Scandinavian Heritage Festival**, last week of May, Ephraim, Sanpete Valley

Join the festivities in the largest Scandinavian Heritage Festival in the Intermountain West. Activities include Scandinavian costumes, stories, crafts, music, food and more. [www.scandinavianheritagefestival.com](http://www.scandinavianheritagefestival.com)

**Summerfest**, early June, Orem

There's no better way to celebrate the summer than fireworks, parades, games, rides, arts & crafts and a dutch oven cook-off. Or you can always participate in the 5K firefighters' run or tennis tournament. <http://summerfest.orem.org>

**Brigham City Heritage Arts Festival**, early June, Brigham City

The Brigham City Heritage Arts Festival provides a venue for displaying, marketing and understanding the finest expression of authentic heritage arts. The festival offers displays, performances and lectures related to the heritage theme. [www.brighamcity.utah.gov/displayarticle8.html](http://www.brighamcity.utah.gov/displayarticle8.html)

**Strawberry Days**, mid June, Pleasant Grove

The festival's theme, "Preserving our traditions," says it all... carnivals, pageants, rodeo, pie-eating contest, pet show, and good old-fashioned fun. [www.plgrove.org/straw.html](http://www.plgrove.org/straw.html)

**Utah Arts Festival**, mid June, Salt Lake City

Utah's premier summer event, the Utah Arts Festival showcases some of the best creative works from around the world. [www.uaf.org](http://www.uaf.org)

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[www.utah.travel](http://www.utah.travel)



Polka player replete with accordion, Oktoberfest at Snowbird



Park City's Egyptian Theater, unofficial nucleus of the Sundance Film Festival



The Utah Shakespearean Festival's Adams Theater is so authentic that the BBC filmed part of its Shakespeare series there



The Utah State Fair dominates Salt Lake's westside cityscape

## Northern Utah (continued)

### Mormon Miracle Pageant, third & fourth weekends in June, Manti

Under the stars and at the foot of the magnificent Manti Temple you can witness 500 volunteers reenact the history of Joseph Smith and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org)

### America's Freedom Festival, coinciding with July 4, Provo

Activities happen all summer long celebrating democracy and freedom through education and events such as balloon festivals, parades, concerts, galas, BBQ's and more. [www.freedomfestival.org](http://www.freedomfestival.org)

### International Music Festival, three weeks in July, Park City

Park City brings in some of the world's most talented classical musicians to play in a pristine summer mountain setting. [www.pcmusicfestival.com](http://www.pcmusicfestival.com)

### Salt Lake City International Jazz Festival, early July, Salt Lake City

Jazz up your summer with a little piano, drums, saxophone and bass. Free music is held all weekend at Abravanel Hall and Washington Square for the summer's "must do" event. [www.slccjazzfest.com](http://www.slccjazzfest.com)

### International Food Festival, early July, Hyrum

Taste the world without having to buy the plane ticket. Indulge in authentic cuisines from Central and South America, Europe and the US, all at one location!

### Spanish Fork Fiesta Days, two weeks through mid July, Spanish fork

Fiesta Days is one big 2-week celebration including rodeos, a craft fair, parade, carnival, music and unlimited amounts of foods of every flavor. You can entertain yourself for weeks. [www.spanishfork.org/newsevents/events/fiestadays](http://www.spanishfork.org/newsevents/events/fiestadays)

### Snowbird Rock and Blues Festival, late July, Salt Lake City

Snowbird takes it away with one night of good old fashioned rock and roll and one night of rhythmic blues to sooth your soul. [www.snowbird.com](http://www.snowbird.com)

### Bear Lake Raspberry Days, first Thurs through Sat in August, Garden City

The harvest of Bear River's delicious raspberry crop marks the celebration of Raspberry Days, so treat yourself to a fresh raspberry shake, and shake it up with a parade, crafts, rodeo and fireworks. [www.bearlake.org/raspsdays.html](http://www.bearlake.org/raspsdays.html)

## Southeastern Utah

### Moab Art Festival, Memorial Day weekend, Moab

Artists from every talent show off jewelry, pottery, sculptures, clothing, fine art and photography. And the weekend wouldn't be complete without food, music and entertainment. [www.moabartsfestival.org](http://www.moabartsfestival.org)

### Helper Arts and Music Festival, mid August, Helper

Visual and musical art provide for an extended weekend of events including a car and cycle show, "American Idol" competition and an emerging artist exhibition. [www.helperartsfestival.com](http://www.helperartsfestival.com)

## Southwestern Utah

### St. George Arts Festival, mid April, St. George

Thousands of visitors throughout the West gather to show and buy unique pieces of art in the beautiful red rock country of St. George. [www.sgcity.org/artfestival](http://www.sgcity.org/artfestival)

### Utah Shakespearean Festival, mid June through late October, Cedar City

This Tony Award-winning festival is the ultimate playgoers event. Watch, participate and be immersed in experiences which entertain, enrich and educate. [www.bard.org](http://www.bard.org)

### Park City Kimball Arts Festival, first weekend in August, Park City

This festival features over 200 of North America's top artists, fine cuisine from some of the West's finest chefs and live entertainment from the region's best performing artists. [www.kimball-art.org/artfestival.htm](http://www.kimball-art.org/artfestival.htm)

### Payson Onion Days, Labor Day Weekend, Payson

Celebrate the onion harvest with food, a carnival, fireworks, local competitions and all the onion dishes you could hope for! [www.payson.org](http://www.payson.org)

### Golden Spike National Historic Site Railroaders' Festival, early August, Golden Spike National Historic Area, Corinne

Among the many activities throughout the day, visitors can try their hand at the game "graces", see the re-enactment of the last spike ceremony or take a cab tour of the replica locomotives. [www.nps.gov/gosp/events/events.html](http://www.nps.gov/gosp/events/events.html)

### Snowbird's Oktoberfest, late August through early October, Salt Lake City

Running for 31 years straight, Oktoberfest is the best excuse to celebrate fall harvest and one of Germany's most famous pastimes - beer. [www.snowbird.com](http://www.snowbird.com)

### Timpanogos Storytelling Festival, first weekend in September, Orem

With attendance over 20,000, this is one of the largest storytelling festivals in the West. Hear the nation's best storytellers capture memories and magic and spin them into tales that will leave you laughing and crying. [www.timpfest.org](http://www.timpfest.org)

### Utah State Fair, early September, Salt Lake City

Ten days of good old-fashioned family fun, animals, rides, cotton candy, music and games make the State Fair one of Utah's biggest summer parties. [www.utah-state-fair.com](http://www.utah-state-fair.com)

### Swiss Days, Labor Day weekend, Midway

Historically called "Harvest Days," Swiss Days is now a good excuse to celebrate Switzerland's strong cultural influence in beautiful Midway. All of the proceeds fund local community projects. [www.midwayswissdays.com](http://www.midwayswissdays.com)

### Greek Festival, weekend after Labor Day, Salt Lake City

The largest ethnic festival in Utah is held annually on the weekend after Labor Day - Greek music, food and more. (801) 328-9681

### Melon Days, mid September, Green River

Celebrate the annual melon harvest with baseball and softball, square dancing, food, games, fireworks and all the free watermelon you can eat. (435) 564-8225

### Moab Bike Fest, late October, Moab

Formerly the Moab Fat Tire Festival, the Moab Bike Fest is the premier mountain biking event of the year. Top riders and recreationists assemble for the live music, contests, new rides and free camping for registered guests. [www.moabbikefest.com](http://www.moabbikefest.com)

### Moab Folk Music Festival, early November, Moab

Moab presents the best of its local folk artists in this 100% wind powered, green event, "Music in tune with people in tune with nature." [www.moabfolkfestival.com](http://www.moabfolkfestival.com)

### Western Legends Round Up, late August, Kanab

Wish you could have been a cowboy? Western Legends Roundup will take you back in time with music, entertainment, cooking, costumes and activities just like the old days.